

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Literature is a work that describes the real life of humans. Although many have defined literature in its general form, there are still many who find it difficult to truly reveal the true meaning of literature. It makes a lot of people do research, which includes expert sources and writers to really be able to find out the basic problem of defining the literature. According to Abram (2014), literature is a reflection, representation and imitation of human life and the world and the criteria given to something can be said to be a literary work is the truth of the representation given about something or an object. In literature, there is what is called psychoanalysis which is an explanation and definition of how literature and psychology are two things that are related to each other. Endraswara (2011) explains that psychology and literature are both studies that study humans and human life. In the case of psychology, what are studied are humans in their lives. In the case of literature, what is studied is the human being imagined by the author, who inevitably influences the psychology of the author with the characters.

Movie is a type of literary work that tries to express a general and actual human life. Various events experienced by a character in a film are based on the psychological aspects given to them. When including psychological literature in it, it can be seen that trauma is one part of the psychological reaction or

psychological impact that almost each individual has in real life which is reflected in a character in a literary work that reflects the psychological impact. Harvey (2002) explains that trauma is a psychological reaction that occurs in an extreme form which results in great loss to the sufferer. He emphasized that trauma can be caused by events that really shock or shock, for example the sudden death of a close family member of the sufferer. Traumatic experiences in particular give extreme reactions to sufferers in the form of psychic and physical. Trauma can also be caused by loss, for example the loss of family, spouse or other friends with whom they were very close. Trauma can also occur due to the psychological actions of a person, which will also have an impact on their own psychology.

In this study, however, the researcher discussed psychological trauma. Psychological trauma is a real effect shown by sufferers who in the past experienced traumatic experiences whose effects is referred to as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD (Harvey, 2002). Traumatic is a kind of mental damage caused by a long-lasting consequence of incredibly traumatic events that overwhelm a person's ability to cope. Traumatic can be caused by stress events in the past which are still lasting and remaining in memory. Thus, there is something enigmatic, catastrophic, and extreme that is incomprehensible upon man's mind causing splitting of self's integration and dissociation in trauma. In other words, trauma can be an individual's response to some-thing that is too shocking and overwhelming that the man's mind is unable to grasp which eventually falls into the psyche and cause disintegration, distortion, and rupture (Sartika, 2020).

Traumatic childhood is unbearable situation that force our mind to rethink memory in the past. It is introduced by Sigmund Freud that a situation which happens in a short time, that “increase the strength of a given stimulus” which affecting someone to create fear abnormally. Freud insisted that there is no one-to-one connection between the traumatic event and memory. It is dependent on both the internal and external state of affairs. These experiences are stored at our particular consciousness level and compulsively repeated without any verbal expression (Singh, 2022). A child who has a traumatic experience usually has a problem with communication to other people. They do not know how to tell their anxiety and sad story. It is possible if they decide to keep silent and try to forget it. It is seldom reported because some of the parent will get embarrassed if other people know about the abuse. They will deliberate to hide it and believe that their children can forget it quickly.

A case of traumatic childhood can be shown from the experience of Katie Standon in movie *Mockingbird don't sing*. In the movie *Mockingbird Don't sing*, Katie Standon is the main character in the film experiencing violence by her father. She spent almost her entire childhood locked in a bedroom, isolated and abused for over a decade. As mentioned in related literature reviews, child abuse is a violation of the law or the conduct of a person or group that can cause injury or death and cause damage or property to others. One of example abuse in this movie will be described with the following:

(The setting is Katie is in a room where she is not locked or isolated by her father sitting in a chair with both hands, then dad comes with a bowl of food)

Wes Standon: “Now you swallow. Did you hear me?! *(Wes Standon says in a high tone while feeding Katie roughly)*

Katie Standon: *(Katie wouldn't open so the food fell and soiled her clothes)*

Wes Standon: "Now you swallow, stop it! Stop it!" *(Wes Standon says in a high pitched voice while smearing Katie's face with the food he brought)*

(The scene shifts to Louise Standon who has cataracts sitting in a chair in the living room listening to Billy Standon learns to read and at that moment, Louise Standon hears Wes Standon yell at Katie Standon and listens to the loud slap Wes Standon makes to Katie Standon.)

The dialogue shows Katie experiencing child abuse from Wes Standon who is physically violent, as we know Wes Standon slapped Katie Standon because she wouldn't open her mouth and swallow her food. Wes Standon also committed non-physical violence as we know Wes Standon as we know Wes Standon treated Katie in an abnormal way.

In relation with the research above, other research that has done by (Oktaviani, 2021), the theme of the article which is related to this research is "The Effect of Traumatic Experience to Personality Types in the Novel *Girl in Pieces*". She found that the forms of traumatic experience found based on the novel are flashbacks or re-experiencing traumatic events, arousal traumatic, and avoidance traumatic, whereas the flashback traumatic is the greatest effect on the introvert personality. In addition, other research that has done by (Priyanka, 2022), the theme of the article which is related to this research is "examining traumatic childhood and memories in Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*". She argued that childhood is mainly the Most Tender phase of a human's life. It is meant to enjoy more but life is unpredictable and sometimes it can bring out the situation that might leave a long lasting and negative impact on a child's

psychology. This impact can slowly turn into severe sufferings and takes the form of trauma. Trauma indicates serious impacts on a person's psyche. To revive those traumatic events, memory plays an important role. Due to the recurrence of those traumatic events through memory mechanism, it might be difficult for a person to forget those bad events. Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* is the best example of disturbed childhood that leads to disturbed adulthood consequently. Mainly, the twins Estha and Rahel faced childhood trauma. Roy never leaves any opportunity to bring forward the sufferings of people through her fiction and non-fiction as well. She has very beautifully portrayed the impact of traumatic childhood on a person's psyche through Estha and Rahel.

Therefore, based on the reason the writer analyze this movie is the writer wanted to know the various personalities, psychology conflicts and causes of traumatic childhood experienced by Katie in movie *Mockingbird don't sing*. The writer chose *Mockingbird don't sing* movie because it has a lot of aspects of Katie as main character which can be discussed about traumatic and the effects of traumatic. Based on the explanation above, the researcher wanted to conduct a research by the title **Traumatic Childhood Memory in Movie *Mockingbird Don't Sing* by Harry Bromley.**

B. Problems of the Study

In relation to the background of the study, the problems were formulated as the following:

1. What types of traumatic childhood were experienced by Katie in *Mockingbird don't sing* movie?

2. How were the effect of traumatic childhood realized in *Mockingbird don't sing* movie?

C. Objectives of the Study

In relation to the problems of the study, the objectives of this research were:

1. To find out types of traumatic childhood experienced by Katie in *Mockingbird don't sing* movie.
2. To describe the effect of traumatic childhood in *Mockingbird don't sing* movie.

D. Scope of the Study

This scope of this study focused on traumatic childhood and the object of this study is Katie as main character in *Mockingbird don't sing* movie by Harry Bromley.

E. Significances of the Study

Finding of study were expected to have contribution theoretically and practically.

Theoretically, the findings of study were expected to enrich the theories of psychology especially Traumatic childhood by Sigmund Freud Theory.

Practically, the findings of this study were useful for:

1. The university students as reference who are interested in studying psychology in conducting any further studies in traumatic childhood.

2. The readers, as reference which can be purposed to introduce them which referred to traumatic childhood and its realization in the movie. Moreover, the reader can understand meaning which contain traumatic childhood in *Mockingbird don't sing* movie.
3. Other researchers, to conduct other relevant research on the basis psychology in which the finding can give surprising progress in psychology field.

